



## Office of the Presidents



April 2, 2020

**Dear Students and Families of Thames at Mitchell,**

While we think that you have done a fantastic job adapting to remote learning, we know the circumstances under which we are all living are challenging. We have heard your concerns and will add the option to choose Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory as a grade designation for Session I and Session II.

**Please read the following outline thoroughly to understand the implications of your choice. You should consider potential impacts including credits earned, time to degree completion, Grade Point Average (GPA) and other factors.** We strongly recommend that you reach out to your Academic Advisor to discuss the following options. Your advisors are there to help!

### **Grade Options for Spring 2020 Session I and Session II**

For all Spring 2020 Session I and II courses (including internships), students will have the option to *choose* either their earned grade (e.g. A, B, etc.) or the grade designation of *Satisfactory* or *Unsatisfactory*. **Students will be able to know their earned grade before making a decision.** Faculty will communicate final grades to students on or before the week of May 4.

A designation of *Satisfactory*:

- requires that student has earned at least a C- in the course
- earns the credits **and** Dominant Ability (ABE) for that course
- does not impact GPA

A designation of *Unsatisfactory*:

- earns **no** credits **nor** Dominant Ability (ABE) for that course
- does not impact GPA

**Submit your option to each of your instructors by 5pm on Friday, May 15. If you do not make a choice for each class, you will automatically receive your earned grade for that class.**

We hope that this decision to offer an additional grading option will give you some peace of mind as you work to complete your coursework for Session I and prepare for Session II. Be sure to review the **"Things to Consider"** graphic below to help inform your decision.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and those around you.

Catherine Wright, Ph.D.  
*Interim Co-President*

Mary-Jane McLaughlin, M.S.  
*Interim Co-President*

## Considering Session I or Session II **Satisfactory/ Unsatisfactory** Grading?

*Here are some things  
you should think about.*

*To ensure academic success, you should carefully consider whether to use the S/U grading option. Students may choose the S/U option for any Session I or Session II 2020 course through **May 15 at 5pm**. You should connect with your Academic Advisor before making any final decisions.*



**Satisfactory/  
Unsatisfactory**  
may be a good  
option if...

- You are struggling with the transition to online learning.
- You have a special circumstance that prevents you from performing to your typical standards.



**Satisfactory/  
Unsatisfactory**  
may **NOT** be a  
good option if...

- You feel your current course grade will raise your GPA.
- You need the credits and/or Dominant Ability (ABE) to stay on track for degree completion.



### **Additional Considerations**

- A Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory grade does not impact GPA.
- If you are considering graduate schools or transferring schools please speak with your advisor about how S/U grading may impact your decision.
- If you are on academic probation, be sure to consult your advisor.